

The Truth About Florida

The Bunnell Home Builder

Edited by S. HOWARD

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Editor's Personal Page

"Back to the Land" Is the Solution of Many Problems

The Editor wishes to call your attention to the cartoon on this page. So many things must be learned in the "School of Experience," and one problem that men and women today are wrestling with is the high cost of living. This little sketch is worthy of your study and consideration.

Every day the increase in the cost of living is being brought more forcibly to your door and you are realizing that it costs more to live now than it did ten years ago. If present day prices are affecting you now, what do you expect of the next ten years?

Thinking men declare that the next decade will witness one of the greatest struggles in the history of the civilized world. It will be a mighty struggle against the high cost of living problems and will involve every nation under the sun. In our own country, for instance, the increase of the cost of food since 1900 has been more than 40%.

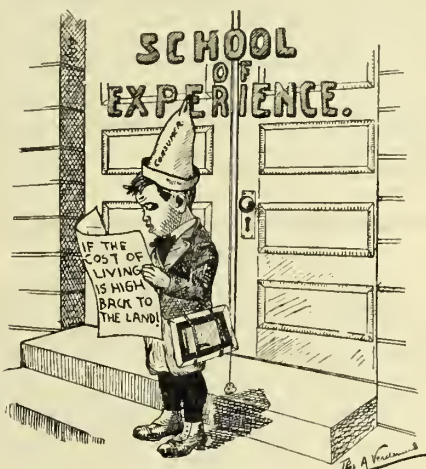
The cause and cure of this situation is attracting the attention of all classes of people alike. During the last Presidential campaign many theories purporting to solve the question were advanced, but none of the candidates, in my estimation, touched the real vital spot in the present situation.

The majority of nations are not producing food to equal the consumption by their inhabitants, and these people are flocking to this country as the only alternate to threatened starvation.

According to circular No. 38, issued by the Secretary of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the population of the United States has increased during the past ten years 21%, while during this same period the increase in farm land acreage has been less than 5%, or an increase in population of 16% over and above that of farm land acreage. It is conceded by all who are conversant with the situation, that our population will increase more in the next ten years than in the past ten. The Federal Government reports that ALL possible increase of farmland can be only 9% of the present acreage. If the population is increasing so much more rapidly than is the possible increase of the acreage of farm land, does it not seem reasonable to expect good land to advance in price in proportion to the increase of population?

Capital, too, is fully awake to these conditions and is fast buying up all the favorable lands and putting the price out of the reach of the man of limited means. The time, however, has not YET arrived when it is impossible for a few to secure a good piece of land.

People are longing for, striving for—Independence. It can't be found in the cities where living is so high, and where there are a score of men for every job. No man can be more independent than the one who owns a piece of land, a possession that is not affected by bank failures, fires or Wall Street panics.



You will not always have the opportunity of securing good land. It's being taken up very rapidly, and it is the wise man who sees his opportunity and grasps it now.

SEVENTEEN CENTS A DAY WILL BUY A FARM-HOME IN THE BUNNELL-DUPONT COLONY.

What Farming Now Offers as a Vocation

Much has been written about the tendency of the young man in the past to leave the farm and seek his fortune in the crowded centers of population, and the more crowded avocations of these centers.

Whether this has been responsible or not, the fact must be admitted that the tide of public opinion regarding the preference of metropolitan life has changed, and the drift now is rather from the city to the country, with "back-to-the-soil" nailed to the mast-head, as the slogan of those who find in the new order of things a more independent, healthful and happy life—a chance which many look upon as coming out of a state of mere existence into the fullness and idealness of rational living.

Whatever may be said in favor of the exciting pleasures and attractions and nerve-straining demands of city residence, it is being increasingly admitted that for a given amount of energy invested by the individual, rural life pays by far the biggest dividends.

There are several reasons why this is so. The freedom of the outdoor life revitalizes and gives abundant energy, and the increase of energy, coupled with exuberance of spirits, most bountifully equips one for the prosecution of his labors, and makes him doubly ambitious for large undertakings.

Then if he will take up farming as a serious, business-like calling, he has, in these modern times, every aid to economical, labor-saving production, of which he can make capital for profitable earnings.

The oft-quoted expression, "We are the heirs of all the ages" is in nothing more true than in this industry. We use varieties of seed the experience of those who have gone before have proven best suited to our needs. Selection and breeding have made those now in use better than ever before; implements have been evolved from the brains of practical men which enables us to do our work rapidly and efficiently; spraying for fungus and insect enemies has been wrought for us by our scientific workers, and methods of harvesting, transporting and marketing that promote success.

These are our heritages. Let us take them, which means we must study and apply the principles that have been worked out for us at the expense of so much time, labor and money; succeed because we interpret and use them correctly, and transmit them to our children improved by what we have learned.

No education is more interesting, more varied, or aids more in insuring success than the study of Agriculture.

Pass the Good News Along

When you were through reading your February issue of the Bunnell Home Builder did you hand it to a friend or neighbor? It contained so much interesting matter concerning the colonists and the success they are making in their new home, that it would be a shame to deprive your friends of all the good things therein. Be liberal.

If you have not already done this, do it now; and when you are through with this issue, pass it along also. Every number of this little magazine contains the latest news of the colony and many helpful suggestions to all land owners. The letters coming to this office week after week from satisfied men and women who have visited the colony and the stories of the progress being made by those already located on their lands, many of which are printed in the Home Builder, ought to be read by everyone.

Let your friends and neighbors share with you in reading of this wonderful country—this land of sunshine and flowers—this colony where independence is within the reach of all.

Seventy Thousand Dollars Soon to Be Spent for Good Roads in St. John's County

AUGUSTA GRAVEL TO BE USED FOR PAVING

The following articles appeared during the month of February in the St. Augustine Record, and give an idea of the tremendous interest now being shown in road building in our section of St. Johns County:

Seventy thousand dollars will be expended upon the highways of St. Johns county within the next few months.

The John Anderson boulevard will be paved straight through to the Duval county line.

The highway to Elkton and to Hastings will be paved its entire distance.

Two miles of laterals will be paved at Hastings.

One and one-half miles of laterals will be paved at Elkton.

Augusta gravel will be used.

Under a new contract direct with parties in Augusta a saving of from ten to fifteen dollars a car on the gravel will be effected.

This in substance is the result of the meeting of the county commissioners yesterday and marks the beginning of a highway improvement project which is destined to bring all St. Johns together and to do more for the development of St. Johns county than any move made in many years.

At 3 o'clock in the afternoon the citizens' committee, appointed in the morning and consisting of President G. S. Meserve of the Board of Trade, B. Genovar, G. B. Lamar, G. W. Waller of Hastings and James L. Middleton of Elkton, went into executive session with the board to devise ways and means for the financing of a program of highway improvement. The executive session lasted a little over thirty minutes.

When it ended Col. W. A. MacWilliams who has been selected as spokesman for the board and the members of the committee, submitted a statement of what had been done.

He stated that a decision had been reached to raise seventy thousand dollars in the manner followed heretofore in raising road funds, citizens giving their notes and these being taken up by the county by warrants legalized by the legislature. With this amount it had been decided that the Jacksonville road can be hardsurfaced its entire length, the road to Elkton and Hastings paved and laterals placed at both of those potato cities.

His announcement was greeted with applause from the many spectators present

from different sections of the country. Eugene Masters offered a vote of thanks to the members of the committee for their services and to the board for the action taken. This was carried unanimously by those present.

An investigation made as to the prices obtainable resulted in the board closing a contract direct with the Cement Gravel Company of Augusta, Ga., which will effect a saving of from ten to fourteen dollars a car over the price heretofore paid. This will total up to between five and eight hundred dollars saving on each mile paved.

An order was placed for ten earloads of gravel a day to be shipped, the bulk of this to go at first on the Jacksonville road, but some to go to Hastings for the lateral work in order that it may be completed before the potato shipping season opens.

The Jacksonville road will be in splendid condition in a few weeks and it is expected that it will be all hardsurfaced early in the spring and that work will then be in full swing upon the paving of the road to Elkton and Hastings.

Much Has Been Done in the Bunnell Colony

Built to a large extent by private parties southern St. Johns county has a system of good roads that everyone in the county should be proud of. County Commissioners Faver and Roberts feel that way about it after a trip of inspection over all the roads in Commissioner Moody's district Tuesday afternoon and yesterday morning in the latter's automobile. They are high in their praise of the work that has been done there.



Beautiful shell road running from St. Augustine toward Bunnell

From St. Augustine the John Anderson highway was followed to the south end of the county. The party went to the Volusia line by way of Green's Island and the famous Knox and Bede grove. This is twelve miles from Bunnell and the connecting road is in splendid condition. It has been opened up all of the twelve miles and cleared. Mr. Knox has also contributed to the work on this highway. Three or four miles of the road out of Bunnell has been hardsurfaced and the rest is in good shape.

Another road traversed leads from Bunnell five miles to the county line on the southwest side of the Florida East Coast Railway. A mile of this has been hard-

surfaced and it is all in good condition. This road has been worked recently.

The party also made the trip from Bunnell to Espanola over the new road just completed and opened up this week. It is five miles long and thirty-five feet in width and a splendid highway.

Eight miles of the thirteen mile road connecting St. Johns Park and Bunnell has been hardsurfaced with natural material. A reddish clay thrown up on the grade was mixed with sand on the surface and made a roadway as smooth and firm as any shell road in the county.

Commissioner Moody will keep ten men at work during the winter on the old Kings road south from Pellicer creek to the county line, keeping it in good shape for the winter traffic.

Ocean City News

This is surely an ideal place for fruit. Mr. and Mrs. Cookman have only been here two years and have a fine young orange grove of 300 trees started, besides a variety of other fruits. A few orange and peach trees are in bloom.

C. F. Turner of the Bunnell Development Co., with three other gentlemen from Vermont, Pennsylvania and Utah were Ocean City visitors Tuesday. Mr. Turner took them up to the oyster bed in a row boat. On returning with the boat loaded with oysters they reported having the time of their lives.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Moore of Grandville, O., and sister, Mrs. Ella Humphrey, of Columbus, O., are pleasantly located in one of Cookman's cottages, and tell us they are enjoying every minute. Mr. Moore supplies their table with plenty of oysters, duck and fish. He and Mr. Cookman got seven ducks recently. Mr. Moore has two beautiful lots here and expects to build in the near future.

Although this place is in its infancy it affords many pleasures. One cannot get lonely, several beautiful passenger boats glide up and down the canal daily, besides gaily-decked private cruisers and large freight boats.

We expect a fine company of people from Bunnell to partake in an oyster roast and fish fry very soon.

Bunnell Bank Meeting

I. I. Moody Re-elected President—Bank in Splendid Condition.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Bunnell State Bank was recently held and was most pleasing to all those connected with the institution. The statement of the bank's condition was excellent and showed that the institution had made 27 per cent. Of this ten per cent was declared in dividends and the balance was carried to the surplus and undivided profits account.

This financial institution has filled a long felt want in Southern St. Johns and its remarkable growth and its condition speak splendidly for the growth of that section as a financial institution, and is always an index to the prosperity of any community. It has quickly taken its place as one of the leading state banks of Florida.



One of the colony roads built by the Company

"Florida is the Most Prosperous State in the Union"

Says Gov. Gilchrist, in Leslie's Weekly

Ever since Albert W. Gilchrist was inaugurated governor of the State of Florida, in January, 1909, he has continuously endeavored to avail himself of every opportunity to advertise the resources and superiority of Florida in the magazines and newspapers, not only in Florida, but in other States and in other countries. Governor Gilchrist contributed a large part of such communications to various publications during his term of office.

The following intensely interesting article by Governor Gilchrist appeared in Leslie's Weekly of December 12, 1912, under the head, "Good Times in Florida."

"Florida extends through fully five hundred miles of latitude and has twelve hundred miles of water front. It is bounded on the west and south by the Gulf of Mexico and on the east by the gulf stream. Owing to the peculiar shape of Florida the gulf stream is formed. If there was no Florida there would be no gulf stream. The State is now sending out the gulf stream of its various products to all parts of the United States. It is a great mineral State, producing half of the phosphate of the United States and one-third of that of the world. Fullers earth is mined in various portions of the State. Fine clay for porcelain is also mined. It is a great naval stores and lumber producing State. It is one of the most healthful States in the Union, the death rate being less than that of any other State and of any country in Europe.

"Our climate is a great asset. Due to it, thousands of people visit Florida as tourists and thousands of people come here to make their homes. The benefit of the climate in extending the lives of worthy men and women ten, fifteen or twenty years cannot be estimated.

"In many of the Western States, in particular, much attention is given to irrigation. Through its rivers and lakes, Florida is undoubtedly the best watered State in all the Union. Artesian water may be found in most portions of Florida. Irrigation can be cheaply done. However, irrigation is rarely used.

"Though not a corn-producing State, in several counties in Florida from sixty to seventy bushels of corn per acre have been raised. A bale of cotton to the acre is often raised. Florida raises fully one-third of all the sea island cotton produced in the

United States. Florida peavine and beggarweed hay—two or three tons per acre—is now regarded as good hay as can be produced anywhere in the world. Our people largely specialize. In one county fully five thousand acres are planted in paper-shell pecans. In other sections strawberries are raised almost exclusively, from eight hundred to one thousand quarts per acre. In one community Irish potatoes are raised; in others train loads of celery; in others tomatoes, eggplant, beans and other vegetables. In more southern portions of the State, tropical and semi-tropical fruits are grown exclusively. Last year, over one of the several trunk lines of railroads in Florida, 28,000 carloads of fruits, vegetables and melons were shipped. We grow cane from which from five hundred to one thousand gallons of syrup are produced to the acre.

"The rays of our warm winter sun are concentrated in, and the dew drops are crystallized in, these fruits and vegetables. They are shipped to various parts of our common country, gladdening the hearts of our far-away brothers and making life worth living to them.

"Cattle, sheep, poultry, horticulture and agriculture flourish throughout the State. Manufacturing and mining and the fisheries of the State are rapidly developing. The manufactured products of the State represent fully eighty-seven dollars per capita. Our soil produces as much per acre of products to which it is suited as does any State in the Union.

"Our State is being settled with good citizens. According to the census of 1910, the rate of increase in our population was 42.2 per cent, being double the 21.1 per cent of the nation at large. 'Every little movement has a meaning all its own.' It appears that people are beginning to know a good thing when they see it. There are fully thirty-five hundred miles of improved hard roads in Florida. Churches and school houses are increasing. Illiteracy is decreasing.

"Florida is the most prosperous State in the Union. Its population is more national than that of any other State. All worthy people receive a hearty welcome in Florida. So much good could be said of Florida that, if I tried to tell it, it would take from now until the last reverberating echoes of Gabriel's horn."

A semi-weekly paper, known as the Courier-Gazette, published in the far-off State of Maine, has just this morning been received by the Editor. It contains a very interesting letter from a subscriber who is wintering in Florida, and we take pleasure in quoting from this letter, as follows:

"After several days in Jacksonville, we proceeded down the East Coast to St. Augustine and Bunnell. They are the two extremes—St. Augustine being the oldest city and Bunnell the youngest city.

"We have spent but little time in St. Augustine, but several days in Bunnell. Here the Bunnell Development Company has opened a large tract on the East Coast, laid it out in sections, and is rapidly selling the farms. The town of Bunnell is only two years old, but is a very attractive place, well laid out, with broad streets, concrete walks, telephone and electric lights, and the East Coast Railroad runs directly through the center of the town. The people are buying the land rapidly, and there is every prospect that in another two years the place will be wonderfully increased in size and population. The land is adapted to orange and vegetable growing. They are clearing and plowing and getting it ready to put in a big potato crop in February.

"Bunnell is only twelve miles from Hastings, which has made such a success in potato raising. They prophesy a 400,000 barrel crop in St. Johns County this coming April.

"There is a fine class of people coming to Bunnell from Canada, Maine, Michigan and other States. They seem to be workers, judging from the way they are clearing the land and getting it ready for planting. Bunnell has a good saw mill where the big pine trees are converted into lumber for house building.

"Mr. B., formerly of Belfast, Maine, is the only contractor here. He keeps a big crew of men at work and would engage more if he could get them.

"Neat little cottages are going up all around. There are the best of facilities for transportation, and the products get into the northern markets when they bring the best prices. No shipping to commission merchants. The buyers come to Bunnell and take the products directly from the farmer.

"If any of our Maine farmers are interested at all, just write to the Bunnell Development Company, Bunnell, Florida, and they will gladly send you descriptive circulars. Having seen for ourselves, we can assure you that the circulars and testimonials are not overdrawn, but are just as correct and conservative as they can be made. This company will be more than pleased to answer any questions that may be asked."



Newly cleared land on three farms in the colony. These fields are all planted to potatoes at the present time

Letters of Interest from Bunnell-Dupont Colony Land-O —From Illinois, Tennessee, Maine, Wa

To the Readers of The Bunnell Home Builder:

Confidence is one of the great essentials in regard to many and most things; it is an element that enters largely into the investment of money from any viewpoint. When a man in moderate circumstances is about to invest all that he possesses in the purchase of a home or a farm he wants to know that the people with whom he does business are reliable and honest and hopes that his own best interests will figure in the deal. Truth in regard to location, climate, crops, transportation facilities, health and success, a square deal in regard to facts that are vital factors in bringing about his ultimate well being from every viewpoint.

These sentiments were very strongly entertained by the writer eighteen months ago when the matter of the purchase of a farm or two in Bunnell, Florida, was brought to our attention. We wanted a future home, a place where we could make enough money from the land to keep us in comfort, and afford ultimate relief from the strenuous life we lead—our portion for more years than we care to enumerate.

We liked Florida; it sounded good to us; not a literal land of ease and comfort at once, but a land of great capacity along financial lines if we found the right locality. We had friends and acquaintances all over the state. We wrote, questioned and interrogated from every viewpoint.

We had an ardent friend at Boynton, for instance, where land was \$235 an acre, five-acre farms, one-third down, one-third for two years, glowing promises, but too much money. Made other investigation, similar conditions obtained. We felt almost discouraged, when the Bunnell, St. Johns County, proposition was suggested for consideration. We found no promoters; land at \$30 per acre, remarkably easy payments; a verification of every statement made in regard to the qualities of the soil; transportation first class and possibilities beyond estimate for the future if we would do our part. A town site with a bank, church, school, an electric light plant, water power and hotel—the outcome of the energy of the men who own the land and who are earnest, single hearted, interested, benevolent men, determined to found a colony of whom they could be proud, with whom they could enter into the well being of each and every one who became a member of the colony.

We bought in Bunnell two farms and two town lots; if we had a family we would own fifty acres, but twenty acres will make a man more than comfortable and give him luxuries.

Florida, like Canaan of old, is a land of "milk and honey." As a health giving proposition Florida is unequalled; no zero temperature, but tropical conditions obtain in lavish abundance.

One can have all the delights of fruit and flowers, ocean and balmy breezes in Florida. Horace Greeley said, "Go West, young man." We say to you, "Young man or old man, go South; if you want prosperity, go South."

HELEN COMBS, M. D.,
Chicago.

Bunnell Development Company, Bunnell, Florida:

Gentlemen—I made a visit to your colony in the summer of 1910. At that time Bunnell was in her infancy and although I felt that the future held something in store for your little city and the country surrounding it, I never dreamed that the development would be so rapid.

I am here on the grounds today. Have been out in most every direction and have come in touch with the farmers. Most of them, I presume, bought their land as I did, by mail, without ever seeing it, and I will say in every instance I find these men in high spirits, and there is no reason why they should not be.

The climate is ideal; the land is easy to get into a state of cultivation, and I will say frankly that I have never in my life seen such prolific growth. The gardens at this time of the year are as fine as ever they could be in mid-summer in northern states.

I find that the folks who are coming here to make this their permanent home, are in almost every instance good, honest men, such as it takes to make a country—men who have their whole hearts in business, and there is not a question of a doubt that within a very short time the lands will all be taken and put into a state of cultivation; in fact any way you start out from Bunnell you find people engaged in the planting of their crops, the cultivation of those crops already planted and growing, the clearing of land and the building of homes.

And now to you, who would like to invest but are afraid—take it from me, a Tennessean, who is neither ashamed of his state or his name, that if you want a good investment, if you want a place you can really call HOME, where you can revel in God's glorious sunshine twelve months in the year, and make a living easier than you ever made it before in your life, come to Bunnell, while the Opportunity to do so knocks at your door.

Within the near future I expect to open up a general builders' and farmers' supply store here. I expect to invest thousands of dollars here, because I want to make it my future home, and am not afraid of the proposition.

I wish I had room here to say all the good things that I could conscientiously say for this town and surrounding country, but as space is limited I will stop by asking you not to just take my word for it, but come and see for yourself.

ED JOHNSON,
Tennessee.

Bunnell Development Company:

Gentlemen—I am enclosing pass-book with payment. I hope to be able to finish payments on my farm in the near future.

I so much like to read the Bunnell Home Builder. I think you have developed beyond imagination since February, 1911. I hope the colony will continue to do as well, and I am sure that it will.

I want to thank you for your fair dealings with me. I have known Mr. Moody for a good many years, and can say that he and all of his family bear the name of

being most upright men in all their dealings, and any proposition they might offer would be strictly honest.

I am glad that I have a farm in this colony, and I hope to improve it as soon as possible.

Yours very truly,

WILLIAM CLAUDE WELLS,
California.

Dear Sir—We have received during the past year many circulars in regard to the Bunnell-DuPont colony, and we were very much interested in reading them, but we placed little faith in the correctness of their descriptions of the place.

There has been so many land deals of an uncertain nature, to speak in the mildest terms, that although we were interested we would not think of advancing the first payment without seeing and judging for ourselves the truth of the statements made in your circulars sent out over the country.

In December we came south and visited Bunnell. We spent three days looking the colony over and found everything exactly as described, only much more attractive than written description could be.

We found the beginning of a city, and we have no doubt that two more years added to its two years of existence will make a decided change in its size and value. Its location is exceptionally fine, and railroad facilities unsurpassed. The East Coast Road runs directly through the central part of the town and its leading highway, the Moody Road, runs straight to the ocean, a distance of about seven miles. If I should write longer I should only repeat many of the good things already said, and which we found by word of the people themselves were entirely correct.

Mr. Moody and Mr. Turner we found very courteous and anxious to show us the land and not simply talk it up. The result of our stay was that we bought a twenty acre farm, although it's not possible at present for us to improve and live on it, but we trust that in a few years we may be able to do so. We are satisfied that it is a good investment.

MR. AND MRS. R. ANSON CRIE,
Maine.

Mr. S. Howard:

Dear Sir—I received the Bunnell Home Builder; it is what we need. I have read it through and am satisfied that it will be of great help to our colony. I have been in the colony nine months and have cleared part of my land, and will be back there as soon as I can get things in shape here to leave. I am satisfied that everybody that has bought or will buy in Bunnell-DuPont colony will have a good investment for the time is coming when improved land like that in Bunnell-DuPont colony will be in demand.

Wishing you and also the Bunnell-DuPont colony success, I am,

Respectfully yours,
J. F. VON HOENE,
Washington.

ners. Note How Widely Scattered these People Are Bngton, Canada, Missouri and Maryland

Mr. Thos. Verdenius:

Dear Sir—I was somewhat delayed on the road to Bunnell, but at the same time pleased to say that I got there O. K., and also enjoyed my visit very much indeed. I found Mr. Turner easily and he certainly did all he could to make my visit to the colony a good and enjoyable one. It was a pleasure for him to answer any questions and show me the land. I was surprised to learn from him as we went over the colony that most of the land was sold. I continually asked him about different tracts and his reply was "that is all sold." This sounds very good. Settlers who are coming into Bunnell will find it much different than going into the prairie province of Canada, where for miles no one lives. In Bunnell, no matter where you glance you can see houses scattered everywhere. I must say that I believe Bunnell has a great future ahead of her, and that people cannot do wrong in investing here. The land is fine and I have been around in Florida, but the land in your colony is certainly fine. I saw pineapple and strawberries ripe. The gardens were in excellent shape. Many acres of potatoes were planted. These people you have there will make a headway.

The climate is just lovely, flowers all around, cool breezes blowing from the ocean, roses blooming, it makes one feel that life is worth living. I was quite taken up with the place although I did not feel much like farming when I saw you, but after seeing your land and the possibilities there are for a man that will work I certainly could not do with less than twenty acres.

I only wish I could stay in this land of sunshine, but business calls me back to British Columbia, Canada, at present. But I can assure you that I want no more of freezing winters in the North, but am going to arrange to be in the Sunny South to stay, and that before long. I have visited the places down between St. Augustine and Daytona, looked over the lands, but your neat little town and good land is the best I have seen.

Yours truly,
S. J. HARRISON,
British Columbia, Canada.

Mr. S. Howard:

Dear Sir—The first three issues of the Bunnell Home Builder received and certainly want to thank you for them. Mrs. Wedde and I are so interested we read every word they contained, and are anxiously awaiting the next one.

I have a word to say about Bunnell myself. It is just a year since our party went to Bunnell to select our farms. Mr. Verdenius received us in Jacksonville, and I must say he certainly treated us royally and showed us all around Jacksonville and then he took us to St. Augustine, showed us all around that beautiful city, from there to an orange grove in the suburbs, where we had the picture taken that has been published in the small booklet, "A LITTLE FARM—A BIG LIVING." From St. Augustine we went to Bunnell, the biggest surprise of all. It rained all the while we were in Bunnell, but not very hard. We went out to select our farm just the same, which was not necessary, for the Bunnell ground is all good. I did not see a bad piece in the colony. What I did see was cabbage and lettuce and all kinds of vegetables in February; hens with their chicks, and men with strings of fish wherever I looked, and Bunnell a town of about two hundred homes.

If I began telling you all I saw, I would never get through.

Yours very truly,
J. H. WEDDE,
Missouri.

My dear Sir:

I am taking the pleasure in writing these few lines about Florida for I have bought ten acres there not over a month ago, and the reason I bought land was because my father and two brothers have bought also. My eldest brother has been to Florida and he takes the paper from there. I believe if he missed getting his Florida paper he would be ready to start for Bunnell right away.

He and I expect to roll into good old Florida next September if we can, for I am tired of the cold winds in the north since I have heard of Florida, where the sun shines all the time.

Yours very truly,
RALEIGH BAILEY,
Illinois.

My dear Mr. Verdenius:

I received your letter and the Bunnell Home Builder about our dear little town, Bunnell. I was so glad to look over those pages to see so many improvements since

I was there two years ago this January.

I am glad that the people of different states are awake. I hope to be one more in our little town, as soon as I can sell my property. When I arrived in Florida it was just like going in a new world. I cannot express the pleasure and enjoyment I saw in the land of roses. People are in the dark if they do not buy at Bunnell.

You can send me some of your literature to give to my friends, for I want them to know all about this wonderful colony.

Yours very truly,
W. J. APPEBY,
Maryland.

United States Weather Bureau Statistics

The following table of temperature and rainfall, based on a ten-year average from United States Weather Bureau statistics, will give the prospective homeseeker a comprehensive idea of what to expect in temperature and rainfall along the East Coast of Florida:

	St.			
	Augustine	Ormond		
	T	R	T	R
January	.56	3.0	58	3.6
February	.61	3.0	58	2.8
March	.62	2.9	64	3.0
April	.68	2.0	69	2.0
May	.73	4.4	77	4.6
June	.78	4.9	70	5.2
July	.80	6.0	80	3.4
August	.80	5.0	80	5.2
September	.77	7.4	79	7.2
October	.65	4.1	72	6.3
November	.63	3.2	64	3.4
December	.58	2.5	57	2.9
Annual	.68	48.1	69	50.6

Editor's Note—Requests have been received from time to time for a report in the Home Builder of the average monthly temperature in the Bunnell-Dupont Colony. The table above gives this information both as to temperature and average monthly rainfall. This table is for St. Augustine and Ormond, but as St. Augustine is about 25 miles north of our colony, and Ormond but 10 miles to the south, one can judge very accurately as to the temperature at Bunnell.



Boating scene near Ocean City



A mid-winter scene in Canada



Orange Grove near Bunnell

WHICH DO YOU PREFER, "WINTER SNOWS" OR "SUNNY SKIES?"

Every Day Happenings In and Around Bunnell and Dupont

Wm. Schaper and wife of Minden, Nebr., were registered at the Hotel Bunnell for several days last week. Mr. Schaper has a ten acre farm on the Moody road, towards the ocean.

Fred R. Bettes, of St. Augustine, spent Sunday in Bunnell, visiting his sister, Miss Irene Bettes, who is the assistant in the Bunnell School.

Mrs. P. Curry and family, of Georgia, hearing of Bunnell's fame, spent a few days here last week, looking over the colony.

L. E. Springer, of Pennsylvania, was a recent visitor and before returning home he purchased a twenty acre farm on the Moody road.

J. H. Winterowd, of Salt Lake City, Utah, was here for a few days last week and purchased 20 acres of land.

B. E. Hubbard and wife of Grand Rapids, Mich., arrived last week, and will visit Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Hubbard, on their farm in the western part of the colony.

C. W. Weatherington and friend, Joe Achweier, of Kentucky, are in Bunnell, inspecting. Mr. Weatherington owns a farm here, and Mr. Achweier will also purchase one before he returns home.

W. A. Brock, one of Bunnell's farmers, brought into town the other day an extremely large head of lettuce, which he says grew on his place without work, fertilizer or rain. If this be true, we would like to see some of Mr. Brock's garden "sass" that had care, etc.

I. I. Moody, accompanied by C. P. Townsend, of St. Augustine, made a flying trip to Augusta last week in the interest of St. Johns County, to consider the advisability of using Georgia gravel to hard surface the roads of St. Johns County. At the last meeting of the County Commissioners, they decided to raise \$70,000.00 to use in building roads in this county.

S. J. Harrison, of British Columbia, Canada, is a recent enthusiastic visitor to Bunnell. Mr. Harrison bought land here before his visit and he has taken an option on an additional 20 acres. His report on the conditions here will bring 20 families to Bunnell.

The new brick building is being rushed to completion as rapidly as possible. The brick are all on the ground and in a few weeks another handsome building will be added to Bunnell. Part of the building will be occupied by the "St. Johns Tribune," Bunnell's newspaper, and will also contain a builders' supply house, and grocery store.

Dr. St. Peter was exhibiting a radish Wednesday that he raised in his garden, which was certainly a wonder. The radish measured 11 inches in circumference, 28 inches from tip to tip and weighed 2½ pounds. The doctor is certainly some farmer.



View of a portion of Mr. Belsky's Farm
Note the beautiful palmettoes, and grass, waist high

Mr. A. Belsky of Rochester, New York, was in Bunnell recently to inspect land for himself and friends. Mr. Belsky was so pleased with conditions as he found them here that he purchased 60 acres of potato land. Mr. Belsky and his friends now have 100 acres of land in our colony.

Mr. M. Stone, one of Bunnell's up-to-date merchants, has purchased ten acres of land east of town which he expects to farm next year. If Mr. Stone proves to be as good a farmer as he is a merchant, we predict some fine crops from his farm.

The barrel factory is working overtime getting barrels ready for the coming crop of potatoes. They have about two thousand on hand now and are setting up about two hundred daily.

Mr. Emmett Deen of Brandentown, Florida, is spending some time in Bunnell. Mr. Deen contemplates entering the mercantile business here.

Mr. and Mrs. K. Schmidt, of Jacksonville, arrived in the city last week. They are stopping at the home of F. L. Byrd. Mr. Schmidt has accepted a position with the Carter Drug store.

Mr. Thos. H. Lang, an experienced printer and newspaper man of Calhoun, Ga., arrived in the city Monday and has taken charge of the mechanical department of the Tribune. We welcome Mr. Lang to our city.

Mr. R. W. Moore has sold his house and lot on Moody Boulevard to Mrs. C. J. Miller. Mr. and Mrs. Moore have moved out to Ocean City, where they expect to erect a nice home in the near future.

Mr. C. F. Turner, field manager for Bunnell Development Co., is kept very busy these days showing the purchasers their property.

The First Quarterly Conference of the Bunnell Methodist Episcopal church, which was to be held at the church on the 4th inst., has been postponed for one month.

Through the efforts of Messrs. F. L. Byrd and F. A. Rich there is a possibility of the farmers residing near Bunnell having a free rural delivery mail route established in the near future. The proposed route is to cover the following territory:

Carrier to leave Bunnell in the morning, covering Deen road to Braun's corner, thence across Haw creek to the Saplings Turpentine Still, thence to Bunnell over the south end of the Moody road, arriving in Bunnell about 2 p. m.

Among the many improvements for Bunnell is the handsome two-story brick building which is to occupy the corner across the track from the Florida East Coast Railway depot.

The foundation was laid this week and the work will be rushed to completion. The building will be seventy feet in length with a fifty foot frontage on Broad street. The building will be known as the Tribune building. The ground floor will contain two rooms 25x70. The second floor will contain four offices 20x20 and a dancing hall 30x50.

The lower floors will be occupied by the Tribune and an up-to-date general merchandise store.



Mr. Bartlett's furniture being unloaded at Bunnell

There have been some very important improvements made at the Florida East Coast Railway depot in Bunnell during the past month. The depot and walk-ways on north and south sides are brilliantly lighted with electric lights; new seats and oil heaters have been added to both waiting rooms, which is a great comfort to its many passengers. Watch out for other improvements in the near future.

Following are the church services at the M. E. Church in Bunnell:

Preaching—Sunday, 11 a. m.

Preaching—Sunday, 7 p. m.

Sunday School—Sunday, 3 p. m.

Rev. Haynes, Pastor.

Growing Sugar Cane in the Bunnell-Dupont Colony

By I. I. MOODY

Growing Cane for Syrup Will Be One of Florida's Greatest Industries

Over four hundred years ago the sugar cane was introduced into Florida. The seed cane was imported from the West Indies and extensively cultivated by the Jesuit Fathers as far back as 1518, although it was first introduced in 1493 by Columbus on his second voyage. From that time its cultivation and the accompanying industry of making syrup or sugar from the cane has been constantly carried on in a greater or less degree.



This cane mill shows the present method of obtaining syrup.

In former years vast sugar cane plantations existed in Florida, notably on the Halifax river, and ruins of old sugar refineries are to be seen just a few miles from Bunnell. However, for some reason or other, the industry was allowed to decline.

That this should be so is almost, one might say, a national calamity. No state in the entire sugar belt of the United States can produce cane equal to that of Florida in sugar content or of a finer grade. The climatic conditions of Florida are peculiarly favorable for its growth and maturity; the soils are pre-eminently adapted to its culture.

Yet all this vast area, these great opportunities for a live and profitable industry are being allowed to run to waste. Is it a fear of overstocking the markets that causes this apathy and drives the Florida farmer to consider other, but less staple crops? This should not be, for the American people are the greatest consumers of sugar in the world, and yet sugar is the only agricultural product which the United States imports.

Florida, with her superior climate and soil, when once she awakens and puts her shoulder to the wheel, when once her farmers begin to think and combine practical knowledge and labor with capital and skill, now seeking profitable employment, could almost of herself solve the American supply of sugar in the cane belt of the United States.

Beet sugar never could, and never will, compete with that produced from cane, where and when the supply of the latter meets the demand. The beet grower knows this and would himself naturally gravitate to the cane belt where his profits will be greater and his crops more certain.

Any soil in Florida that will produce a fair crop of corn will produce a corresponding crop of sugar cane, but like other crops, the richer the soil and the better it is prepared, so much will the crop be improved and the product increased.

Fine cane can be raised on the pine land, with its clay sub-soil, such as we have in our colony, and this has been demonstrated by several of our settlers who have from one to five acre patches.

Cane can be planted either in the fall or the spring. For fall planting November is the best month, and for spring planting, February or March. The soil should be thoroughly plowed—deep plowing essential—well harrowed, and the whole put in to first-class tilth not later than October for fall planting, and November or December for the spring planting. Harvesting commences in our county in November or December.

The yield of cane per acre can generally be estimated at 20 tons per acre under present conditions of cultivation in Florida, and one man can attend to 20 acres. With proper fertilizer and improved labor-saving devices one man could grow 30 acres, and the yield should be increased by at least 10 tons per acre.

Cane may be used for two purposes—for syrup or sugar, but until we can have a sugar refinery at Bunnell cane will be raised for syrup. A fair price for good syrup in five gallon cans is 40 cents per gallon. With a yield of 30 gallons to the ton, the gross yield per acre would be \$240.00.

It is hardly necessary to go further into figures to show that in any event growing cane is a profitable undertaking, but greater benefits and profits can be obtained by a centralization of the industry in different sections rather than by individual growing of the cane and making the syrup.

The horse-mill and kettle, it may at once be stated, is wasteful and comparatively expensive; nor is the miller extracting all that should come to him. It is best in the absence at present of central mills for the farmers to club together and erect a small mill—a well-built horizontal, 3-roll mill, powerfully constructed, driven by steam,

that will extract 50 to 60 per cent of the total weight of the cane in juice, and capable of grinding 40 tons of cane per day. This complete could be erected for about \$3,000.00.

The supply of high-grade Florida syrup is never equal to the demand, and if the Florida farmers would only co-operate and build central evaporating plants, the industry could be extended until Florida syrup would be in every market of the world, where the call for it is insistent.

The development of our colony is progressing rapidly—so rapidly indeed as to be almost beyond belief. The Bunnell barrel factory will supply all our colonists and nearby farmers with barrels this season. The potato industry at Bunnell is bound to be one of great importance, not only to our own settlers, but to St. Johns County at large.

I believe in Florida, and I believe in encouraging her farmers in raising staple crops—potatoes, sugar cane, etc., etc., but it is hard to understand why one of her greatest sources of wealth, that of cane growing and syrup making remains apparently dormant.

I trust that the time may soon come when the farmers in our community will have enough acres planted to sugar cane that a mill in Bunnell will become a necessity.

Have you read our booklet on Bunnell—"A Little Farm, A Big Living!" If not, write for it to General Sales Office, 108 S. La Salle St., Chicago

Important Announcement

Just as we go to press, word is received that Mr. I. I. Moody, President of the Bunnell Development Company, has been appointed by the Governor of Florida as a Delegate to the Federal Good Roads Association to be held in Washington, D. C., on March 6th.

This will be a very interesting announcement to all readers of the Bunnell Home Builder. It shows the high standing of the President of our Company in his own state, and as a Delegate to this National meeting means much to the Bunnell-Dupont Colony.

Nothing can be more helpful to our Colony as a whole than good roads, and the articles on another page of this issue indicate that these roads will soon be a certainty.



A field of sugar cane

Florida's Unlimited Possibilities

As Enumerated by MR. J. R. GANT

The Following Letter should be Carefully Read by Every Reader of the "Home Builder"

A few weeks ago while down in the central part of Florida, I was stopping one night at a hotel, and happened to get into conversation in the hotel office with the writer of the following letter. I became so interested in this gentleman, and so impressed with his knowledge of farming in Florida, that before leaving I asked him for a letter for the Home Builder, which is printed below. Mr. Gant has been very modest in his letter, omitting to tell of the success he has made in agricultural lines or of the beautiful home he has been able to establish from the profits of his farm.

THOMAS A. VERDENIUS.

Mr. Thomas A. Verdenius,

Your little magazine, the Bunnell Home Builder, received and read with much pleasure, also your little booklet, "A Little Farm—A Big Living."

Several years ago I had the pleasure of riding horse-back over some of the country in which Bunnell now stands. That was before the East Coast Railroad was built. I was very much impressed with the country and knew that some day it would be found out and settled up by people who would realize the possibilities of the land, and that the whole of Haw Creek country would be in cultivation and that it would make good. And I am not surprised to learn as much through your magazine.

I know you have the soil and all it needs is men of intelligence and perseverance. Those who come with determination will succeed and make happy, contented and prosperous farmers. You must know that this State holds out possibilities second to none. Here we have an ideal country as to climate, soil and seasons. Occasionally for a short time we have little extremes in temperature, rainfall and drought, but as a whole we never notice them. The days are pleasant, the nights cool and restful; crops growing all the time and making good, and we have good markets for our products in season.

My grandparents came here from Georgia in 1835, and cleared up a large plantation, having slaves by the hundred to house and feed, and it took, as my grandfather thought, a lot of land to supply the necessities. He cultivated this farm for about twenty-five years, planting cotton, corn, potatoes, etc. Today that plantation holds an incorporated town and the remainder is cut up into small farms, from which hundreds of thousands of crates of early vegetables are shipped at seasons when they bring high prices, and make hundreds of people prosperous and happy, and not strange to say, some of the very slaves after being freed lived on this same plantation until they died (the last one only a few years ago), the owners of nice little farms of their own, and a prosperous and respected people.

After 1835 a few people came to this community, more to visit my grandparents than anything else, but lo! when they beheld the country they were filled with a desire to locate here also. In 1850 my father came from Georgia, and he also was filled with admiration for the new country, and in 1851 he moved all of his personal

effects, which were few, to the place where he lived for thirty-six years, dying at the good old age of three score and fifteen.

When these few people came here they found a wild free country for the most



MR. J. R. GANT
One of Florida's successful farmers

part, abounding in game and fish. Then the larger farms began to grow smaller; the people were content to hunt and fish and cultivate small patches of corn and potatoes for home consumption, planting an occasional orange tree about their premises, more for ornament and shade than for the fruit.

Then about thirty years ago when the railroads came through this part of the country and oranges could be shipped to market, the farms grew less and less until there were scarcely any cultivated lands except in orange groves. People began to come and settle thick and fast, orange groves, both large and small, were set out and in a few years were bearing, and millions of boxes were shipped out which furnished almost all the revenue coming back for sustenance of man and beast.

Everywhere it was oranges, oranges, oranges; no one doing or trying to do anything else, and when it seemed that all there was to do was to grow an orange tree into bearing and live comfortably and independently ever afterward, one of those little extremes of cold came and laid bare to the ground all those beautiful trees, and almost every tree in the then famous orange belt was killed.

Then it was that the people were sore tried. Did they "holler?" Did Congress or any one come to the rescue? Was there any assistance whatever for these people? No. None, and they realizing what had happened, went back to their farms and began to farm as they had never farmed before, asking favors of none but with the determination to win. Most of the game having disappeared by this time they began

to diversify their farming, finding out more and more the possibilities of the soil about that it was capable of yielding far more profit per acre than their groves had ever done. They dug deeper and deeper into the soil each year, getting more and more for their labors, with a three and sometimes even four crops a year, so that they began to care but very little whether oranges would ever grow here again or not.

Today in this section of the State large areas of land that once contained fine orange groves are now given over to truck and field crops, and the people are happy, industrious and prosperous. I know of land in Florida that a few years ago would scarcely produce anything, but with the new order of things—better preparation, better cultivation, diversification of crops, intelligence and determination—the results are wondrous to behold.

I am living on my father's farm. Some of the land has been in constant cultivation for sixty years. It will produce more now than it ever did, and as the soil grows deeper each year the crops are better and better as the years go by. I consider that there is no limit to this land with proper care, and I believe I can grow anything adapted to this section and get as good a yield, if not better, than in almost any other state. Here we raise corn, oats, sweet and Irish potatoes, any of the legumes, truck of all kinds, watermelons, etc., with a thrifty herd of swine to follow this up.

Now the thing for a man to do is to thoroughly prepare the soil for the crop he expects to raise. Add humus to the soil by planting and growing cow peas, velvet beans, etc., and plowing or discing them under each year. Turn the soil a little deeper and every time you do this you are building up and increasing your crop, until in a very few years you have a good soil and can keep it good by the same method.

When your crop is planted give it frequent and very shallow cultivation. This is as essential here as any other country. Tell your people not to expect too much to start with. "It rains dollars in Florida," but these dollars have to be dug up, not picked up, and the sooner the farmer learns that the better it will be for him. He won't have to work any harder here than anywhere else, and no other state offers such opportunities as Florida; however, the soil yields up nothing without an effort.

Our climate will give you health, happiness and the joy of living.

With best wishes for you and yours, I am
Very respectfully yours,

J. R. GANT.

FREE
THE BUNNELL HOME BUILDER
Is sent free each month to all Bunnell-Dupont Colony land owners. If you do not own a farm at Bunnell, but are interested in this colony and would like to receive a copy of this magazine each month kindly write for it to the sales office, Room 1103,

108 S. La Salle Street, Chicago, Ill.